Librarianship & Library Systems in the Arabian Peninsula

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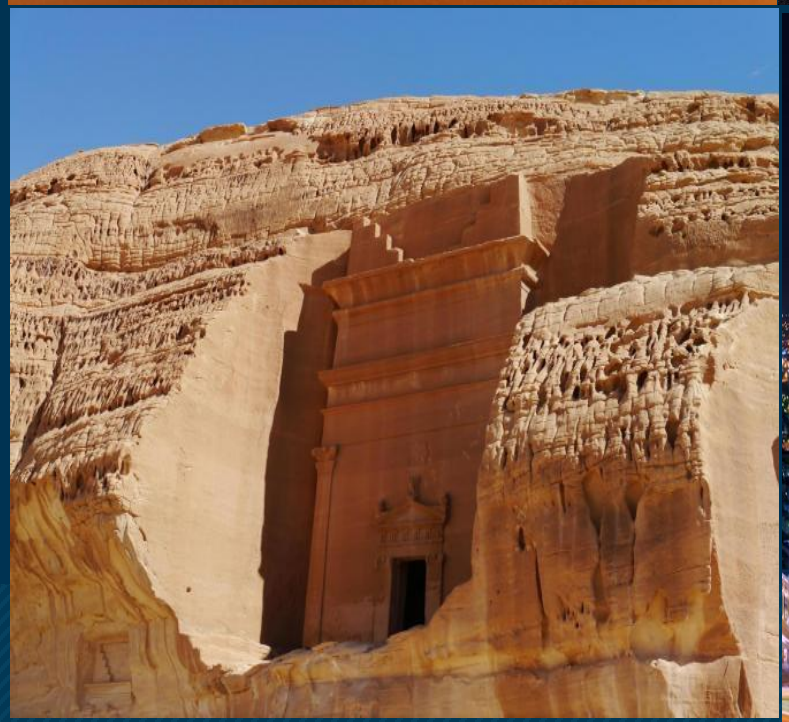
Outline

- The Arabian Peninsula (Latest)
- Top World Library Systems Overview
- Library Profession in the Arabian Peninsula
- Current Library Systems in the Arabian Peninsula
- 10 Years of Symphony
- Future Prospects of the Library Systems



The Arabian Peninsula & Librarianship

- Approximately the world's largest (two-thirds) proven oil reserves and one-third natural gas reserves
- Largest peninsula in the world around 3,237,500 km^2
- Very Ancient Sites Like 'Mada'in Saleh' and Origin of Islam
- Higher education in the Arabian Peninsula has grown remarkably over the last four decades
- Libraries are still in infancy stage and struggling to make their space in the Society
- Very Few Universities are offering under graduate/graduate level courses in Library/Information Science
- Mostly Libraries are managed by Expatriates Librarians and always keep explaining Local Authorities as well as Users that there is a difference between bookshops and libraries

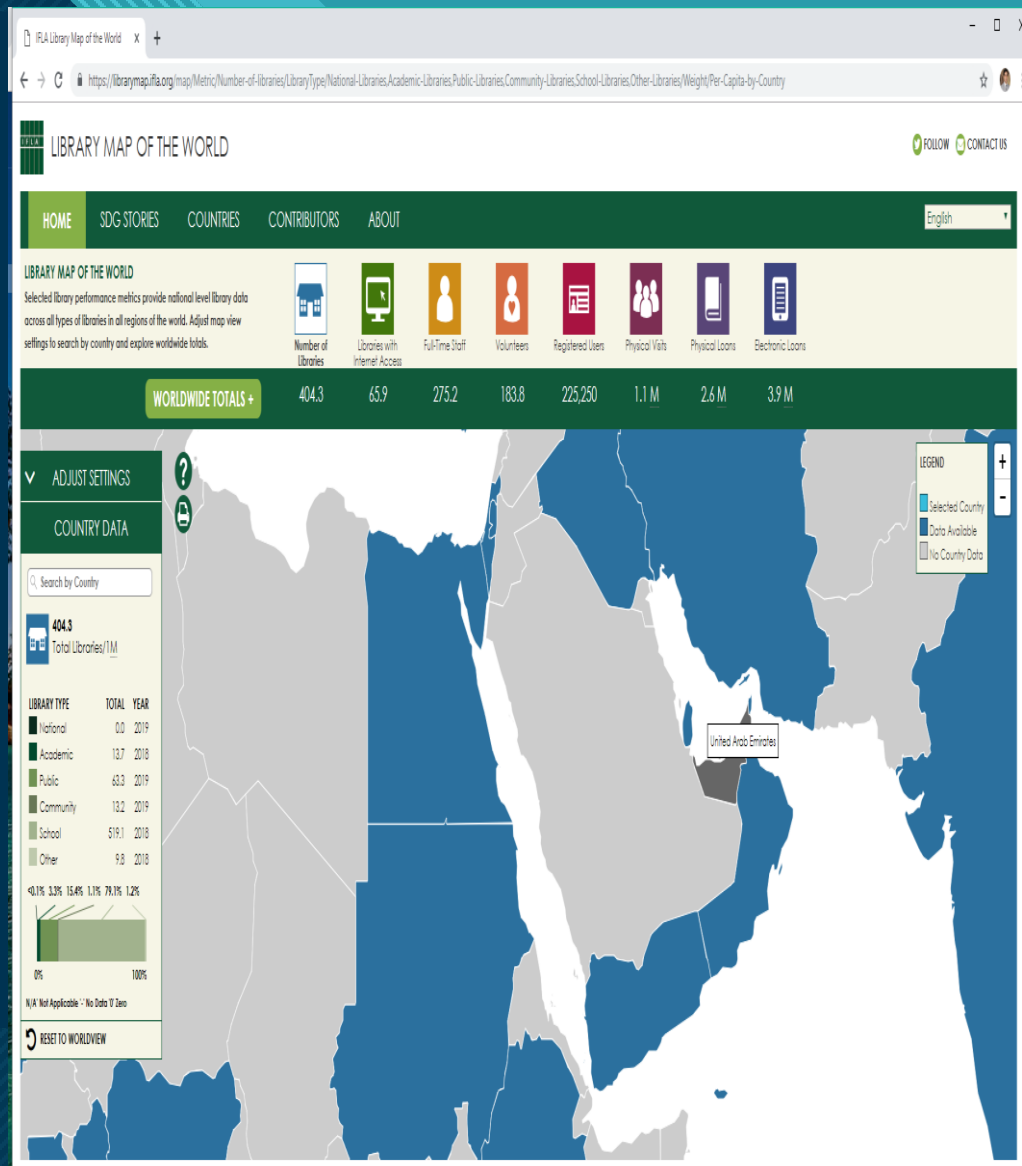
Area	3.2 million km^2 (1.25 million mi^2)
Population	77,983,936
Demonym	Arabian
Countries	Saudi Arabia Yemen Oman United Arab Emirates Kuwait Qatar Bahrain

The Arabian Peninsula & Librarianship

- Very Huge and Attractive Library Buildings but without Readers
- One of the main obstacles to arrive at a functioning knowledge based society in the Arab World as the Native people do not like to read
- The majority of the LIS workforce in KSA, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, and Kuwait comes from Western and other countries
- Only about 10 percent of the librarians are local because qualified and experienced librarians are scarce
- Still very few Public Schools has libraries
- Book culture does not exist in the today's Arab World
- Even in many parts of Arab region with considerable financial wealth and access to education
- There is a problem with the Arabic language, as the word maktabah (مكتبة) means both, "library" as well as "bookstore."

The Arabian Peninsula & Librarianship

- IFLA Library Map of the World does not show Most of Arab Peninsula Libraries
- Only RCYCI Library is registered in COSI EMEA Membership Directory from the Arabian Peninsula
- Lack of texts translated into Arabic, censorship, Political instability
- Competing classical and colloquial dialects,
- Weak library networks, and piracy all contribute to the diminution of reading in Arab countries
- Lack of interest from the Top Leadership
- The most suitable option for the successful implementation of ILS in the Arab World is directly acquire the services from the ILS provider elimination of Local Vendor
- RCYCI got support from UK office for the successful implementation of Symphony for the 4 sites on 1 server with best utilization of the financial resources.



World Library Systems Overview

System	URL	*Total Libraries 2018	**Total Libraries 2019	Difference
ILS provided by SirsiDynix Symphony Horizon Dynix	https://librarytechnology.org/vendors/sirsidynix/	14,458	14,315	-143
ILS provided by Innovative Interfaces Sierra Millennium Polaris Virtua	https://librarytechnology.org/vendors/innovative/	9,625	9,230	-395
Koha	https://librarytechnology.org/products/type.pl?Product=Koha	4,873	5,122	249
The Library Corporation Library. Solution Carl.X Carl	https://librarytechnology.org/vendors/tlc/	4,295	4,335	40
Ex Libris Alma, Aleph, Voyager	https://librarytechnology.org/vendors/exlibris/	3,773	4,263	490

- *Source: https://librarytechnology.org Accessed on December 18, 2017*
- *** Source: https://librarytechnology.org Accessed on April 23, 2019*

Library Systems Used by Top 10 Universities

Rank*	University Name	Library System	Web Links
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA	ALEPH 500 by Ex Libris	http://library.mit.edu
2	Stanford University, California	Symphony	https://searchworks.stanford.edu/
3	Harvard University, USA	ALEPH 500 by Ex Libris	http://holliscatalog.harvard.edu
4	California Institute of Technology, USA	Invenio – TIND by Invenios, http://inveniosoftware.org/	https://caltech.tind.io/
5	University of Oxford, UK	ALEPH 500 by Ex Libris	http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk
6	University of Cambridge, UK	Alma, Ex Libris	http://newton.lib.cam.ac.uk:7703/
7	ETH Zurich - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology	ALEPH 500 by Ex Libris	http://opac.nebis.ch
8	Imperial College London, UK	Alma by Ex Libris	http://imp-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com
9	University of Chicago, USA	Kuali OLE, VUFind https://vufind.org	https://catalog.lib.uchicago.edu/vufind/
10	University College London, UK	ALEPH 500 by Ex Libris	http://library.ucl.ac.uk

**Top 10 universities of the world - QS Ranking 2019 https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2019*

10 Years of Symphony in Saudi Arabia

Sr. #	Organization Name	Library System	Web/Catalog Links
1	King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.kau.edu.sa/
2	King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://libportal.kfupm.edu.sa
3	King Khalid University, Abha	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://libsearch.kku.edu.sa
4	King Saud University, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://catalog.library.ksu.edu.sa
5	Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, Al-Khobar	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://opac.pmu.edu.sa
6	Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University, Al Kharj	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://library.psau.edu.sa/en
7	Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University, Riyadh,	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://dla.psau.edu.sa/en
8	Prince Sultan University, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://clopac.psu.edu.sa
9	Princess Nora bint Abdul Rahman University, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.pnu.edu.sa/
10	Taibah University, Madina	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://elibrary.taibahu.edu.sa/Taibah
11	The Royal Commission Yanbu Colleges & Institutes, Yanbu Industrial City	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://elib.rcyci.edu.sa
12	University of Dammam, Dammam	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.ud.edu.sa/
13	Abdul Aziz Public Library, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Horizon	http://ipac.kapl.org.sa/elib/
14	Al Yamamah University, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Horizon	http://search.lib.alyamamah.edu.sa/
15	King Fahd National Library, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Horizon	http://ecat.kfnl.gov.sa:88/hipmain/
16	Al-Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Horizon	https://imamu.edu.sa/en/libraries https://lib.imamu.edu.sa/

Symphony not functioning in Saudi Libraries

Sr. #	Organization Name		Library System
1	University of Prince Mugrin, Madinah	SirsiDynix-Symphony	(https://librarytechnology.org/library/193875)**
2	GCC Standardization Organization, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://www.gso.org.sa/gso-website/?lang=en (https://librarytechnology.org/library/196681)**
3	King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.kapsarc.org/ (https://librarytechnology.org/library/196697)**
4	King Khalid Military Academy, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.kkma.edu.sa/ (https://librarytechnology.org/library/196698)**
5	Ministry of Education Central Library, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	(https://librarytechnology.org/library/11119)**
6	Ministry of Education Central Library, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://informatics.gov.sa/catalog (https://librarytechnology.org/library/11119)**
7	Salman Bin Abdulaziz University, Al Kharj	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://dla.psau.edu.sa/en/video-gallery/1-9 (https://librarytechnology.org/library/196706)**
8	Saudi Wildlife Commission Library, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://www.swa.gov.sa/en/ (https://librarytechnology.org/library/64084)**
9	Supreme Economic Council, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.sec.gov.sa/ (https://librarytechnology.org/library/193896)**
10	Technical and Vocational Training Corporation, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	www.tvtc.gov.sa/English (https://librarytechnology.org/library/196709)**
11	King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://com.ksau-hs.edu.sa/library/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/198526

Other Library Systems in Saudi Arabia

Sr. #	Organization Name	Library System	Web/Catalog Links
1	Alfaisal University, Riyadh	Koha	http://libkoha.alfaisal.edu/
2	Dar Al Uloom University, Riyadh	Koha	http://mylis.dau.edu.sa/
3	Effat University Library, Jeddah	Koha	http://lib.effatuniversity.edu.sa/
4	Majmaa University, Al Majmaah	Koha	http://maktabat.mu.edu.sa/
5	King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal	Koha	http://libsys.kaust.edu.sa/
6	Al-Jouf University, Al Jouf	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	http://library.ju.edu.sa
7	Islamic Development Bank Library, Jeddah	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	https://www.isdb-pilot.org/
8	Arab East Colleges, Riyadh	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://library.arabeast.edu.sa/
9	Buraydah Private Colleges, Buraydah	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://www.bpc-portal.com/lib
10	King Abdullah Medical City, Macca	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://www.kamc.med.sa
11	King Fahad Public Library, Jeddah	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://sierra.kfpl.org.sa/
12	Umm al-Qura University, Macca	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	https://uqu.edu.sa/en/lib
13	University of Bisha, Bisha	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://www.ub.edu.sa/web/dla

10 Years of Symphony in United Arab Emirates

Sr. #	Organization Name	Library System	Web/Catalog Links	Web OPAC Current Situation
1	Ajman University of Science and Technology, Ajman	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.ajman.ac.ae	Functioning
2	Al Ain University of Science and Technology, Al-Ain	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://library.aau.ac.ae/en/ http://onlinelib.aau.ac.ae/	Functioning
3	American University Of Ras Al Khaimah	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.aurak.ac.ae/uhtbin/cgisirsi.exe/x/0/0/49	Functioning
4	Jumeira University, Dubai	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.ju.ac.ae	Functioning
5	Paris Sorbonne University -- Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi	SirsiDynix-Horizon	http://library.psuad.ac.ae	Functioning
6	Salim Bin Abdullah Islamic, Ajman, Ajman	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://librarytechnology.org/library/196708	Functioning
7	Department of Economic Development, Dubai	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.dubaided.ae	Functioning
8	American University in The Emirates	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://library.aue.ae/ http://sirsi.aue.ae/	Not Functioning
9	Arab Monetary Fund, Abu Dhabi	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.amf.org.ae/en https://librarytechnology.org/library/198247	Not Functioning
10	International Petroleum Investment Company, Abu Dhabi	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.ipic.ae/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/196690	Not Functioning
11	Zayed House for Islamic Culture, Al-Ain, Al-Ain	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.zhic.ae/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/64083	Not Functioning

Innovative Interfaces in UAE

1	New York University, Abu Dhabi	Exlibris-Aleph	https://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/library.html	Functioning
2	American University, Sharjah	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	https://library.aus.edu	Functioning
3	Mohammed Bin Rashid Academic Medical Center, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	http://libopac.mbru.ac.ae/	Functioning
4	Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	https://libopac.mbru.ac.ae/search	Functioning
5	Rochester Institute Of Technology- Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	https://albert.rit.edu	Functioning
6	United Arab Emirates University, Al-Ain	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	http://library.uaeu.ac.ae/	Functioning
7	Zayed University, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	http://library.zu.ac.ae/	Functioning
8	Abu Dhabi Polytechnic	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://sierra-actvet.ankabut.ac.ae	Functioning
9	Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, Abu Dhabi	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://library.ecssr.com/	Functioning
10	Emirates College for Advanced Education, Abu Dhabi	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://library.ecae.ac.ae/search/	Functioning
11	Higher Colleges of Technology, Abu Dhabi	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://library.hct.ac.ae/search	Functioning
12	University of Sharjah, Sharjah	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://library.sharjah.ac.ae/	Functioning
13	British University in Dubai, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	http://library.buid.ac.ae/ http://catalog.buid.ac.ae:8080/	Functioning
14	Canadian University of Dubai, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	http://libraryonline.cud.ae:8080/	Functioning
15	Ministry of Information and Culture, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	http://iportal.libraries.gov.ae/	Functioning

Other Library Systems in UAE

1	Emirates Diplomatic Academy	Koha	http://library.eda.ac.ae/	Functioning
2	Gulf Medical University	Koha	http://www.gmulive.ac.ae/opac/index.asp	Functioning
3	Khalifa University of Science Technology and Research, Abu Dhabi	Koha	http://opac.kustar.ac.ae/	Functioning
4	Masdar Institute, Abu Dhabi	Koha	http://opac.kustar.ac.ae	Functioning
5	Petroleum Institute, Abu Dhabi	Koha	http://pi.summon.serialssolutions.com	Functioning
6	University of Wollongong, Dubai	Koha	https://library.uowdubai.ac.ae	Functioning
7	American University, Dubai	Koha - ByWater Solutions	https://koha.aud.edu/	Functioning
8	Dubai Medical & Pharmacy College for Girls	Follett Destiny	https://dpc.follettdestiny.com	Functioning
9	Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government	Follett Destiny	https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/14475 https://www.mbrsg.ae/home/library.aspx	Functioning
10	University of Fujairah	Follett Destiny	http://www.uof.ac.ae/library/?lang=en	Functioning
11	Abu Dhabi University	Discovery System	https://library.adu.ac.ae/ https://adu.on.worldcat.org/discovery	Functioning
12	Ras Al Khaimah Medical and Health Sciences University	AutoLib Software Systems	http://www.rakmhsu.com/library/lib-opac/	Functioning
13	Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	http://www.scad.ae/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/62212	Not Functioning
1	Institute of Applied Technology Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://elibrary-actvet.ankabut.ac.ae	Not Functioning
2	Fatima College of Health Sciences	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	www.fchs.ac.ae/En/library http://elibrary-actvet.ankabut.ac.ae/iii/encore	Not Functioning
3	Emirates Aviation University, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	https://www.eau.ac.ae/en/campus/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/196477	Not Functioning
4	Hamdan bin Mohammed e-university, Dubai	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	https://www.hbmsu.ac.ae/study/library https://librarytechnology.org/library/41991	Not Functioning
5	University Of Dubai	Follett Destiny	http://library.ud.ac.ae/	Not Functioning
6	Institute of Applied Technology	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	http://elibrary-actvet.ankabut.ac.ae/iii	Not Functioning

Status of Library System in Qatar

Sr. #	Organization Name	Library System	Web/Catalog Links	Web OPAC Current Situation
1	Qatar Museums	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://ecatalogue.qma.com.qa	Functioning
2	Carnegie Mellon University Qatar	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://cmu.summon.serialssolutions.com	Not Functioning
3	Qatar Joint Command and Staff College	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://librarytechnology.org/library/193893	Not Functioning
4	Qatar Ministry of Environment	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://www.moe.gov.qa/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/196702	Not Functioning
5	Shafallah Center for Children with Special Needs	Koha	https://librarytechnology.org/library/62558	Not Functioning
6	College of North Atlantic Qatar	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	http://library.cna-qatar.edu.qa/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/193993	Functioning
7	College of the North Atlantic Qatar	Innovative Interfaces -Virtua	https://librarytechnology.org/library/48141	Functioning
8	Doha Institute for Graduate Studies	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	https://librarytechnology.org/library/196885	Functioning
9	Qatar National Library, Education City	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	https://www.qnl.qa/en	Functioning
10	Weill Cornell Medical College Qatar	Innovative Interfaces -Sierra	https://elibrary.qatar-weill.cornell.edu/	Functioning
11	Ahmed Bin Mohammed Military College	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	http://library.abmmc.edu.qa/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/193829	Functioning
12	Hamad Bin Khalifa University	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	https://library.qfis.edu.qa/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/199134	Functioning
13	Qatar University	Innovative Interfaces -Millennium	http://mylibrary.qu.edu.qa/search	Functioning
14	Texas A&M University Qatar	Ex Libris - Voyager	https://libcat.tamu.edu	Functioning
15	Georgetown University -School of Foreign Service Qatar	Ex Libris - Alma	http://gull.georgetown.edu/ https://catalog.library.georgetown.edu	Functioning
16	Northwestern University Qatar	Ex Libris - Alma	https://search.library.northwestern.edu	Functioning
17	University of Calgary Qatar	Ex Libris - Alma	http://sirsi1.lib.ucalgary.ca	Functioning
18	Virginia Commonwealth University Qatar	Ex Libris - Alma	http://www.qatar.vcu.edu/library/	Functioning

*** Source: https://librarytechnology.org & Relevant Organizational Website Accessed on April 24, 2019*

Status of Library System in Oman

Sr. #	Organization Name	Library System	Web/Catalog Links	Web OPAC Current Situation
1	Hisn A'Shumookh Library, Manah	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://hslopac.rca.gov.om/	Functioning
2	Oman Medical College, Al Batinah	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://librarytechnology.org/library/193887	Functioning
3	Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://libweb.squ.edu.om/	Functioning
4	Al Buraimi University College, Al Buraymi, Buraymi	Innovative Interfaces - Virtua	http://buc.edu.om/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/193991	Functioning
5	Sur College of Applied Science, Sur	Innovative Interfaces - Virtua	http://85.154.249.142:8000/cgi-bin/gw/chameleon/ https://librarytechnology.org/library/54539	Functioning
6	Majan College, Ruwi Sultanate, Ruwi	Koha	https://library.majancollege.edu.om/	Functioning
7	Muscat Nursing Institute, Ministry of Health, Muscat	CDS/ISIS	https://librarytechnology.org/library/41422	Functioning

*** Source: https://librarytechnology.org & Relevant Organizational Website Accessed on April 20, 2019*

Status of Library System in Bahrain

Sr. #	Organization Name	Library System	Web/Catalog Links	Web OPAC Current Situation
1	Arabian Gulf University, Manama	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://agulib.agu.edu.bh	Functioning
2	Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa National Library, Juffair	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://libraryportal.icc.gov.bh	Functioning
3	Bahrain Defence Forces, Ar-Rifaa	SirsiDynix-Symphony	https://www.bdfmedical.org/medical-library https://librarytechnology.org/library/199808	Functioning
4	University of Bahrain,Isa Town	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://libcat.uob.edu.bh	Functioning
5	Information Centre for Women and Children, Sakhir	SirsiDynix-Symphony	http://libcat.uob.edu.bh/	Functioning
6	Bahrain Polytechnic, Isa Town	Innovative Interfaces - Millennium	http://library.polytechnic.bh/	Functioning
7	Arab Open University, A'ali	Koha	ut-lrc/head-of-lrc-welcome	Functioning

*** Source: https://librarytechnology.org & Relevant Organizational Website Accessed on April 20, 2019*

Future Prospects of the Library Systems

- SirsiDynix needs to contact with non functioning libraries to resolve the OPAC Issues
- Future is BlueCloud: Market the product for the best library experience
- Strong Symphony/ BlueCloud integration and Visibility
- MARC designed for library catalogue in 1970s not good for the Internet
- Need better standards such Linked Data, RA21 (Resource Access for the 21st Century, FRBR, Bibframe, etc.
- Support Networking among Arab Libraries for exchange programmes and sharing of experience
- Facilitating Consortia and Inter Library Loan among Libraries
- Annual Symphony User Group Conference for the Middle East Libraries